INDEX

TESTIMONY OF

KIMBERLY LEATHLEY, RODNEY BOLING, BYRON KEEP, AND

WILLIAM DOUBLEDAY

Witnesses for Bonneville Power Administration

SUBJECT: New Resource (NR-02) Firm Power Rate; PF Exchange Program (PF-02) Rate; Residential Load (RL-02) Firm Power Rate; PF Exchange Subscription (PF-02) Rate; IOU Subscription Settlement Issues

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7	PROGRAM (PF-02) RATE; RESIDENTIAL LOAD (RL-02) FIRM POWER
8	RATE; PF EXCHANGE SUBSCRIPTION (PF-02) RATE;
9	IOU SUBSCRIPTION SETTLEMENT ISSUES
10	
11	Section 1: Introduction and Purpose of Testimony
12	Q. Please state your names and qualifications.
13	A. My name is Kimberly Leathley and my qualifications are contained in WP-02-Q-BPA-42.
14	A. My name is Rodney Boling and my qualifications are contained in WP-02-Q-BPA-07.
15	A. My name is Byron Keep and my qualifications are contained in WP-02-Q-BPA-34.
16	A. My name is William Doubleday and my qualifications are contained in WP-02-Q-BPA-17.
17	Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?
18	A. The purpose of our testimony is to describe the development of the New Resource
19	(NR-02) Firm Power Rate, the PF Exchange Program (PF-02) Rate, the Residential Load
20	(RL-02) Firm Power Rate, and the PF Exchange Subscription (PF-02) Rate.
21	Our testimony will also discuss a number of ratemaking issues related to the proposed
22	Subscription settlement with investor-owned utilities (IOUs), including a suggested
23	increase in settlement benefits and the effect of the Cost Recovery Adjustment Clause
24	(CRAC) on the determination of monetary benefits provided under the proposed
25	settlement.
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WP-02-E-BPA-19

the 7(b)(2) rate test trigger. BPA then concluded that the NR-96 rate as initially

developed was uncompetitive. BPA noted that an NR-96 rate that recovered BPA's

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for the 1996 rate case test period. The NR-96 rate was also allocated costs resulting from

marginal cost of power, its cost of transmission, and some additional margin can assist in

allowing BPA to recover its costs, including costs that would otherwise have to be borne

in the amount of the in lieu purchase at the PF Exchange Program rate.

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Witnesses: Kimberly Leathley, Rodney Boling, Byron Keep, and William Doubleday

The PF Exchange Subscription rate applies to in lieu sales to exchanging IOUs that participate in a settlement of the Residential Exchange Program as described in BPA's Subscription Strategy. BPA's Subscription Strategy states:

BPA's strategy is that IOUs may agree to a settlement of the Residential Exchange Program in which they would be able to purchase a specified amount of power under Subscription for their residential and small farm customers at a rate approximately equivalent to the PF Preference rate. BPA expects that the statutory mechanism for providing such sales will be a contract under either section 5(b) or section 5(c) of the Northwest Power Act. BPA will determine in subsequent discussions which mechanism will be employed.

The reference to power sales under section 5(c) of the Northwest Power Act is a reference to in lieu transactions between BPA and the IOUs. Under the Subscription Strategy, the actual power deliveries for these sales will be in equal hourly amounts over the contract period. Because BPA has not yet determined whether Subscription settlement power sales to the IOUs will be pursuant to section 5(b) (net requirements sales) or section 5(c) (in lieu sales), BPA must develop rates that apply to each alternative. In the current rate case, BPA is proposing that the rate for in lieu power sales under Subscription will be the PF Exchange Subscription rate. This rate is discussed in more detail in section 5 below.

- *Q.* Please describe the development of the PF Exchange Program rate.
 - The proposed PF Exchange Program rate is established at a posted level for the five-year rate period. The PF Exchange Program rate is not "stepped" in three- and two-year increments. Three- and two-year rates were developed for the PF Preference rate in order to make possible contract power purchases of different terms in order that BPA's power sales did not all expire at the same time. *See* Burns, *et al.*, WP-02-E-BPA-08. This reasoning does not apply to the implementation of the Residential Exchange Program, where utilities participate in a monetary payment program. In addition, the ASCs of

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utilities participating in the Residential Exchange Program are not stepped in this manner, so use of a single rate provides consistency over the rate period.

The PF Exchange Program rate demand charge is the same as the PF Preference rate demand charge. The PF Exchange Program rate energy charges are seasonally differentiated identically to the PF Preference rate energy charges. However, because reliable diurnal residential load data for exchanging utilities is not available to BPA, the PF Exchange Program rate energy charges are not diurnally differentiated but instead are established as an average energy rate based on the PF Preference rate billing determinants. The PF Exchange Program rate includes a charge for Load Variance. A charge for Load Regulation or its successors, as established by BPA's Transmission Business Line (TBL), and the Network Integration (NT) rate or its successors for transmission service, also as established by TBL, are forecasted and included in the initial proposed PF Exchange Program rate. The actual Load Regulation charge and NT rate, as established by the TBL, will be used in determining the PF Exchange Program rate during the rate period. In the event that the TBL's transmission rates change significantly from current rate design, BPA will evaluate whether the applicable transmission rates and charges are still appropriate. Finally, the PF Exchange Program rate is subject to adjustment pursuant to the Section 7(b)(2) rate test. The Section 7(b)(2) rate test is addressed in the testimony of Kaptur, et al., WP-02-E-BPA-34.

- Q. Why do you propose to include a charge for Load Variance in the PF Exchange Program rate?
- A. BPA views the inclusion of a Load Variance charge as necessary to achieve an "apples to apples" comparability between PF and ASC. That is, all utilities must acquire or contract for resources for Load Variance and such costs are included in every utility's revenue requirement and, therefore, ASC. If such costs are included in ASC but excluded from the PF Exchange Program rate, exchanging utilities would receive excessive benefits.

Witnesses: Kimberly Leathley, Rodney Boling, Byron Keep, and William Doubleday

Residential Exchange Program benefits paid by BPA to exchanging utilities. This calculation of benefits assumes similar cost components for both the PF Exchange Program rate and the exchanging utilities' ASCs. Both have most of the costs of providing a power product to residential and small farm customers, including the costs of conventional programmatic conservation. However, BPA's C&RD is not a resource acquisition conservation program and there are no analogous costs in the exchanging utilities' ASCs. *See* Esvelt, *et al.*, WP-02-E-BPA-33. Therefore, costs associated with the C&RD are not added to the calculation of the PF Exchange Program rate.

In any event, had BPA added C&RD costs to the PF Exchange Program rate and made the C&RD available under the PF Exchange Program rate, the Residential Exchange Program benefits paid by BPA to the exchanging utilities would not change. The PF Exchange Program rate would have been 0.5 mill higher and the C&RD would have removed 0.5 mill from that higher rate before calculation of Residential Exchange Program benefits.

Section 4: Residential Load (RL-02) Firm Power Rate

- *Q.* Which power sales are governed by the RL-02 rate?
 - BPA proposes to establish two rates for net requirements power sales to the IOUs. One rate is the New Resources (NR-02) rate. The development and design of this rate was addressed in section 2 above. BPA also proposes to establish the Residential Load (RL-02) rate. This rate applies to net requirements sales, under section 5(b) of the Northwest Power Act, to IOUs that participate in a settlement of the Residential Exchange Program as described in BPA's Subscription Strategy. The Subscription Strategy's reference to power sales under section 5(c) of the Northwest Power Act is a reference to in lieu transactions between BPA and the IOUs which will be governed by the PF Exchange Subscription rate as discussed in section 5 below.

The proposed RL-02 rate is established at a posted level for the five-year rate period. The RL-02 rate is not "stepped" in three- and two-year increments. Three- and two-year rates were developed for the PF Preference rate in order to make possible contract power purchases of different terms in order that BPA's power sales did not all expire at the same time. See Burns, et al., WP-02-E-BPA-08. This reasoning does not apply to the implementation of the proposed Subscription settlement of the Residential Exchange Program, where purchases are only available for 5-year or 10-year terms.

- Why is BPA proposing to establish the RL-02 rate?
- As discussed in greater detail below, BPA believes that current circumstances make the establishment of a separate rate for a separate IOU load or demand both necessary and appropriate. BPA counsel has advised that IOUs have the right to make net requirements power purchases from BPA. BPA counsel has also advised that IOUs have the right to participate in the Residential Exchange Program. In its Subscription Strategy, as noted above, BPA concluded that net requirements power sales could be a component of a settlement of the Residential Exchange Program with the IOUs.
- How does a settlement of the Residential Exchange Program relate to the development of
 - As noted above, BPA believes that current circumstances make the establishment of a separate rate for a specified separate IOU load or demand both necessary and appropriate. These circumstances involve, in part, the Residential Exchange Program. The Residential Exchange Program has been in existence since shortly after enactment of the Northwest Power Act. BPA has implemented the program for approximately 18 years. During that time, BPA has learned what is required to implement the program and the costs and benefits of implementing the program. For example, BPA must negotiate RPSAs with exchanging utilities. These negotiations are contentious, lengthy and demanding of the agency's and

customers' resources. Disputes regarding implementation of the RPSAs and the litigation of such disputes require additional resources to resolve.

In addition, BPA establishes an ASC Methodology, which is used to calculate the ASCs of exchanging utilities. The administrative establishment or revision of the ASC Methodology is extremely contentious. Revision of the ASC Methodology in 1984 led to extensive disagreements and litigation among BPA customers and other interested parties in the region. This process and litigation proved expensive and taxing for all parties.

In implementing the Residential Exchange Program, BPA must also review ASC filings made by the exchanging utilities. The utilities' ASC filings can be great in number and extremely technical. BPA's review of the ASC filings demands the dedication of numerous BPA employees or contract employees, or both. BPA's ASC reports are then filed by the IOUs with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for review. These reviews are also contentious and demand the expenditure of BPA's, the utilities', and interested parties' resources. The exchanging utilities can also appeal FERC's decisions to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. These reviews are also contentious and demand the expenditure of BPA's, the utilities', and interested parties' resources.

In addition, the determination of exchange benefits, as noted previously, is based in part on the level of the applicable PF Exchange rate. If the PF Exchange rate is low, benefits are increased. If the PF Exchange rate is high, benefits are reduced. This leads to additional contentiousness in BPA's rate hearings. BPA's rates are reviewed by FERC for confirmation and approval and may be appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. These reviews are also contentious and demand the expenditure of BPA's, the utilities', and interested parties' resources.

- Q. What have BPA and exchanging utilities done in light of these difficulties?
- A. Beginning in 1981, BPA and exchanging utilities executed RPSAs for 20-year terms.

 Between 1981 and today, all of these RPSAs have been settled except for one, which is

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between BPA and a utility in deemer status. (Deemer status is where a utility sets its ASC equal to BPA's PF Exchange rate and does not receive positive benefits but accrues a negative balance that must be worked off before resuming the receipt of positive benefits.) *See* Boling and Doubleday, WP-02-E-BPA-30. This extremely large number of Residential Exchange settlements reflects the nature and benefits of such settlements. Parties are able to avoid the contentiousness of the myriad Residential Exchange issues, thereby saving significant administrative and legal expenses. Parties receive known benefits instead of guessing future benefits due to changes in the ASC Methodology, the determination of ASC reports, and the development of wholesale power rates. This enables parties to engage in better financial planning.

- *Q.* Please describe how these circumstances support the development of the RL-02 rate.
- A. The RL-02 rate applies only to net requirements sales to IOUs where the IOUs agree to a settlement of the Residential Exchange Program. As noted in BPA's Subscription Strategy:

In subscription, BPA proposes a settlement in which residential and small farm loads of the IOUs will be assured access to the equivalent of 1,800 aMW of federal power for the 2002-2006 period. Of this amount, at least 1,000 aMW will be met with actual power deliveries, depending on which approach is most cost-effective for BPA.

While BPA proposes to offer a settlement based on the equivalent of 1,800 aMW of Federal power, the residential and small farm loads of the IOUs that will be eligible for participation in the Residential Exchange after 2001 total approximately 4,500 aMW. Thus, under the proposed settlement, the IOUs are foregoing their rights to exchange their total residential and small farm loads for the receipt of the equivalent of 1,800 aMW of Federal power, a much smaller amount than their total exchangeable loads.

In addition, BPA does not know whether the IOUs will continue the traditional Residential Exchange Program or will choose to participate in a settlement of the

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Residential Exchange Program through Subscription. BPA has therefore developed rates that will apply under each scenario.

Q. Please describe the development of the RL-02 rate.

In the development of rates that apply under the Subscription scenario, the RL-02 rate was established at a level that, in conjunction with BPA's other firm power rates, recovers BPA's costs. A detailed discussion of BPA's calculation of Subscription rates is contained in the testimony of Doubleday, *et al.*, WP-02-E-BPA-18. BPA proposes to establish two rates for net requirements power sales to the IOUs. One rate is the New Resources (NR-02) rate. The development and design of this rate was addressed in section 2 above. BPA also proposes to establish the Residential Load (RL-02) rate. This rate applies to net requirements sales, under section 5(b) of the Northwest Power Act, to IOUs that participate in a settlement of the Residential Exchange Program as described in BPA's Subscription Strategy.

In developing the RL-02 rate BPA first conducts a Rate Design Step, which implements BPA's rate directives by allocating the costs of the resource pools to the PF, IP, and NR rate pools. In this step, BPA assumes that BPA makes a 1,000 aMW flat power sale at the FPS rate (set equal to the estimated PF Preference rate). This assumption is made because BPA is uncertain to whom its power will be sold. For example, if the IOUs accept the Subscription settlement proposal, they would receive 1,000 aMW of power. On the other hand, if the IOUs forego the Subscription settlement proposal, BPA would likely market the 1,000 aMW of power to other purchasers under the FPS-96 rate. Consistent with BPA's Subscription Strategy, BPA expects that the rates for sales to the IOUs would be approximately equal to the level of the PF Preference rate. Therefore, the assumption of an FPS sale at a rate level equal to the PF Preference rate is a proper placeholder to reflect the possible sale of the 1,000 aMW. The Rate Design Step then establishes the NR-02 and PF Exchange Program rates.

The second step is the Subscription Step. This step takes the results of the Rate Design Step and adjusts them by the added credits and costs associated with implementing the Subscription Strategy. In the Subscription Step, BPA assumes that the 1,000 aMW is no longer an FPS sale, but rather a sale to the IOUs at either the RL-02 or the PF Exchange Subscription rate. The costs recovered by the FPS sale in the Rate Design Step are the same basic costs recovered by the RL/PF Exchange Subscription sale. This provides the foundation for establishment of the RL-02 rate.

Q. Please describe additional circumstances supporting the development of the RL-02 rate.

Additional support for the RL-02 rate is found in the manner in which Federal power is made available to BPA's customers. As noted previously, the Residential Exchange Program provides a monetary form of access to Federal power for regional utilities.

In recent years, however, the benefits available to the residential consumers of IOUs from the Residential Exchange Program have decreased substantially from the benefits provided in earlier years. Because of the decline in these benefits, certain parties have argued that the residential consumers of the region's IOUs are being denied proper access to Federal power. Under Subscription, BPA has proposed a settlement of the Residential Exchange Program in which IOUs could purchase Federal power for a portion of their net requirements loads at competitive rates. BPA believes that providing the IOUs the ability to purchase a specified amount of power at competitive rates contributes to the widespread use of Federal power.

The establishment of the RL-02 rate is also consistent with regional discussions in the Comprehensive Review and in the development of BPA's Subscription Strategy. In the Comprehensive Review, the Steering Committee encouraged parties to continue settlement discussions and to explore other paths to ensure that residential and small farm loads receive an equitable share of the benefits of the Federal system. Comprehensive Review, Final Report at 14. The Comprehensive Review also noted the desire to make power sales to BPA's customers at cost. While the Final Report did not expressly state that all BPA rates

would be equal, some customer groups suggested that this was the basic intent. These positions were reflected in comments made by certain customer groups, including the IOUs and the direct service industries (DSIs) regarding their respective rates, during the Subscription process. In the Subscription Strategy, BPA acknowledged these parties' understandings, stating BPA's expectation that "[t]hese sales [to IOUs] will be at a rate approximately equal to the PF Preference rate, subject to establishment in BPA's rate case and consistent with BPA's rate directives." Subscription Strategy at 16.

Section 5: PF Exchange Subscription (PF-02) Rate

- Q. Which power sales are governed by the PF Exchange Subscription rate?
- A. The PF Exchange Program rate is available for the traditional implementation of the Residential Exchange Program, both for the calculation of monetary benefits and for the price that applies to in lieu power sales. *See* Section 3, PF Exchange Program Rate. The PF Exchange Subscription rate, however, applies only to in lieu power sales in specific settlement circumstances. The PF Exchange Subscription rate applies only where an IOU agrees to a settlement of the Residential Exchange Program as provided in BPA's Subscription Strategy. As noted previously, BPA's Subscription Strategy did not conclude whether power sales to the IOUs under Subscription would be made pursuant to section 5(b) or section 5(c) of the Northwest Power Act. BPA is proposing the RL-02 rate, discussed previously, to apply to Subscription sales to the IOUs if such sales are made pursuant to section 5(b) of the Northwest Power Act.
- Q. Please describe the development of the PF Exchange Subscription rate.
- A. In the development of rates that apply under the Subscription scenario, the RL-02 rate was established at a level that, in conjunction with BPA's other firm power rates, recovers BPA's costs. Because the RL-02 rate recovers BPA's costs in the Subscription scenario, that rate level would also recover BPA's costs if such sales were made as in lieu sales under

section 5(c) of the Northwest Power Act at the PF Exchange Subscription rate. For this reason the PF Exchange Subscription rate is set equal to the RL-02 rate.

- Q. Why was it appropriate to develop the PF Exchange Subscription rate in this manner?
- A. The reasons that support the establishment of the RL-02 rate apply equally to the establishment of the PF Exchange Subscription rate. These reasons include the relative costs and benefits of the Residential Exchange Program, the value of previous settlements of participation in the Program, the foregoing of benefits for large residential loads in exchange for a smaller amount of Federal power, limited IOU access to the benefits of Federal power, promoting the widespread use of Federal power, and recognizing regional discussions regarding the rates that should apply to sales of Federal power after 2001.
- Q. Please provide further detail regarding the proposed PF Exchange Subscription rate.
 - The proposed PF Exchange Subscription rate is established at a posted level for the five-year rate period. The PF Exchange Subscription rate is not "stepped" in three- and two-year increments. Three- and two-year rates were developed for the PF Preference rate in order to make possible contract power purchases of different terms in order that BPA's power sales did not all expire at the same time. *See* Burns, *et al.*, WP-02-E-BPA-08. This reasoning does not apply to the implementation of the proposed Subscription settlement of the Residential Exchange Program, where purchases are only available for 5-year or 10-year terms.

The PF Exchange Subscription rate demand charge is the same as the PF Preference rate demand charge. The PF Exchange Subscription rate energy charges are seasonally and diurnally differentiated identically to the PF Preference rate energy charges. The PF Exchange Subscription rate does not include a charge for Load Variance. This is because, under Subscription, sales to IOUs are flat and require no Load Variance charge, similar to block purchases of other customers. A charge for Load Regulation, as established by BPA's TBL, and the NT rate or its successor for transmission service, as established by TBL, are

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1	Q.	BPA is proposing a Cost Recovery Adjustment Clause (CRAC) for its 2002 rates. See
2		Lovell, et al., WP-02-E-BPA-14. Does the CRAC affect the calculation of monetary
3		benefits under the proposed IOU settlement?
4	A.	Yes. The CRAC implements a surcharge to applicable rates in the event that the conditions
5		for triggering the CRAC have been satisfied. The CRAC applies to the RL-02 and the PF
6		Exchange Subscription rates, in addition to other rates. In the event that the CRAC triggers
7		and the RL-02 rate and PF Exchange Subscription rate increase, the increased rates would
8		be compared with BPA's five-year flat block market forecast to calculate monetary benefits
9		to IOUs under the settlement. This is consistent with the fact that the rates for power sales
10		under the settlement are subject to the CRAC and would increase in the event that the
11		CRAC triggered.
12	Q.	Does this conclude your testimony?
13	A.	Yes.
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